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SKIING



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The National
Forests-
America's
Playgrounds

Forest Service /
U.S. Department of Agriculture



Snow

FS-515522



SNOW IN MICHIGAN/parents and teenagers take to the road for a day at Caberfae in the Manistee National Forest where novices snowplow their way down gentle slopes and jumpers soar through space, gracefully poised for their return to earth.

SNOW IN NEW ENGLAND/a tent village mushrooms at the foot of Tuckerman Ravine in the White Mountain National Forest to shelter the daring youngsters and oldsters who spend the day plunging in sharp parallel turns down the almost perpendicular head-wall of Mount Washington.

SNOW IN CALIFORNIA/in the Eldorado National Forest mothers show their little girls the intricacies of a stem Christy while the boys lead dad a merry chase with hip-swinging turns.

SNOW IN OREGON/skiers at Timberline Lodge in the Mount Hood National Forest ride the Magic Mile chairlift high up Mount Hood to Silcox Shelter and then point their skis down, the silence of flight broken only by the "swoosh" of flying snow as they check their speed.

SNOW IN THE ROCKIES/western Colorado skiers rise before dawn to trek cross-country through unbroken powder snow in the Gunnison and White River National Forests, gliding down steep slopes and in their wake leaving ripples of snow.

SNOW ALL OVER THE COUNTRY/skiers of all abilities and ages, eagerly anticipating the first downhill flight, slip into ski boots, fasten their bindings, and ride the slopes and trails of the National Forests—America's winter playgrounds.



The Forest Service and Skiing

Just about as soon as the American public learned to say *sitzmark* and located Lake Placid on the map during the Winter Olympics of 1932, the Forest Service started clearing ski slopes. Some of today's best known ski areas were located in the thirties by Forest Service recreation experts who helped lay out trails and construction sites for lodges, ski lifts, and other facilities so that all were compatible with other forest uses.

Today the National Forests offer some of the best skiing in the country. Over 200 ski areas, including more than 80 percent of the major ski areas in the West, are located entirely or partially on National Forest land. Well-designed and carefully managed to meet Forest Service safety requirements, these winter playgrounds have been built by businessmen, civic groups, and State agencies, and are operated under forest-use permits.

Safety has always been a basic consideration of the Forest Service in administering its ski areas, and many groups cooperate in providing safety training and development for skiers of all ages and abilities. Ski area operators employ professional instructors. The U.S. Ski Association and its many regional divisions sponsor programs that develop good skiers and prepare them for competitive events that range from children's races to the Olympics.

Ski patrols—most of them members of the National Ski Patrol—are also employed by National Forest ski area operators. Patrolmen mark hazards such as rocks and holes on the slopes and trails, help skiers in trouble on the hills, and reform the schussboomer who careens down the hill out of control. At the end of the day these men and women, trained in winter first aid, make a final sweep of all ski runs to see that no one is left out overnight.

At many National Forest ski areas, large displays show ski runs, their degree of difficulty, and current snow conditions. With a quick glance, the skier can tell which runs are his speed, whether they are icy or covered deep with powder, and whether they are open or closed.

Recently the Forest Service and four national ski associations cooperatively devised and adopted a series of standard national ski area signs showing the degree of difficulty of ski runs as well as other information helpful to the skier. These signs, in use at ski areas throughout the National Forests, are shown on the back cover of this booklet and should become a part of the visual vocabulary of every skier or would-be skier.



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Men in Green Parkas

Winter sports can be stimulating and healthful—and they can be dangerous. To insure the safety of the winter visitor, Forest Service Snow Rangers are on duty at many of the heavily used ski areas. These men in green parkas and black ski pants work closely with ski area operators, ski schools, and ski patrols.

Usually the Snow Ranger is among the first to ride the lift, checking the loading point, the landing platform, and the unloading ramp. He notes the safety devices on the lifts: the brakes that prevent backrolling when the chair stops for any reason, the automatic cutoff at the top of the rope tow to prevent the skier from tangling with the motor. He makes sure a ski patrol is on duty, and sometimes serves on the patrol during his nonwork days. And he is constantly on the alert for dangerous snow buildup.

Snow avalanche control in the United States started in 1937 at Alta, Utah. This community, once famed as a brawling mining camp, had become even more famous to skiers because of its location in Little Cottonwood Canyon in the Wasatch National Forest. Here was a valley of exciting ski terrain that for 6 months each year was covered with dry powder snow—the skier's dream. But here also was a valley with a devastating avalanche record. Alta had been nearly obliterated in 1874 when a tremendous snowslide killed more than 60 people. In the next 35 years, 67 others met the white death.

Development of Alta as a ski resort was contingent on taming the avalanche; so the Forest Service set out to do it. Snow Rangers studied the terrain, measured snow depths, and charted winds. They watched where and how the snow built to avalanche

proportions, and they found ways to precipitate slides. They learned to ski them down by crossing high up on steep slopes until they triggered a slide, to shoot them down with recoilless rifles loaned by the Army or the National Guard, and to blast with hand-placed explosives.

Latest development is the avalauncher—a projectile propelled by compressed air, with a delayed fuse which lights automatically so that the can of explosives goes off after it hits the snow. Simple and surefire, the avalauncher is used not only by Snow Rangers but also by ski area operators.

Today, avalanches manmade to order mean safe skiing.

Know These Signs- They Will Help You Enjoy Your National Forest Skiing



The 12 standard national ski area signs shown here may be cut out and carried with you on your next ski trip. The simple shapes and bright colors are easily recognized even by the skier moving at high speed, his vision blurred by flying snow. Quick recognition of the signs will help to avert accidents by warning you what to expect.

The three signs showing the relative degree of difficulty of ski runs at each ski area are posted at the beginning of trails and at intersections. Two signs—"Closed, Avalanche Area" and "Extra Caution"—are self-explanatory, and should be heeded at all times.

Learn these signs, and ski the National Forests safely!



NO Schussbooming



Trails Merge



Trail Closed



Congested Area



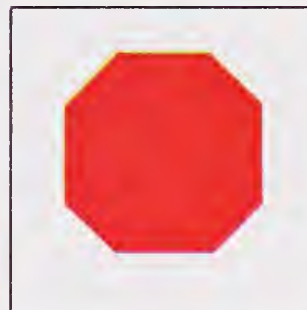
Warming Hut



Emergency Telephone



Chair Lift



CLOSED Avalanche Area



Extra Caution



Easier



More Difficult

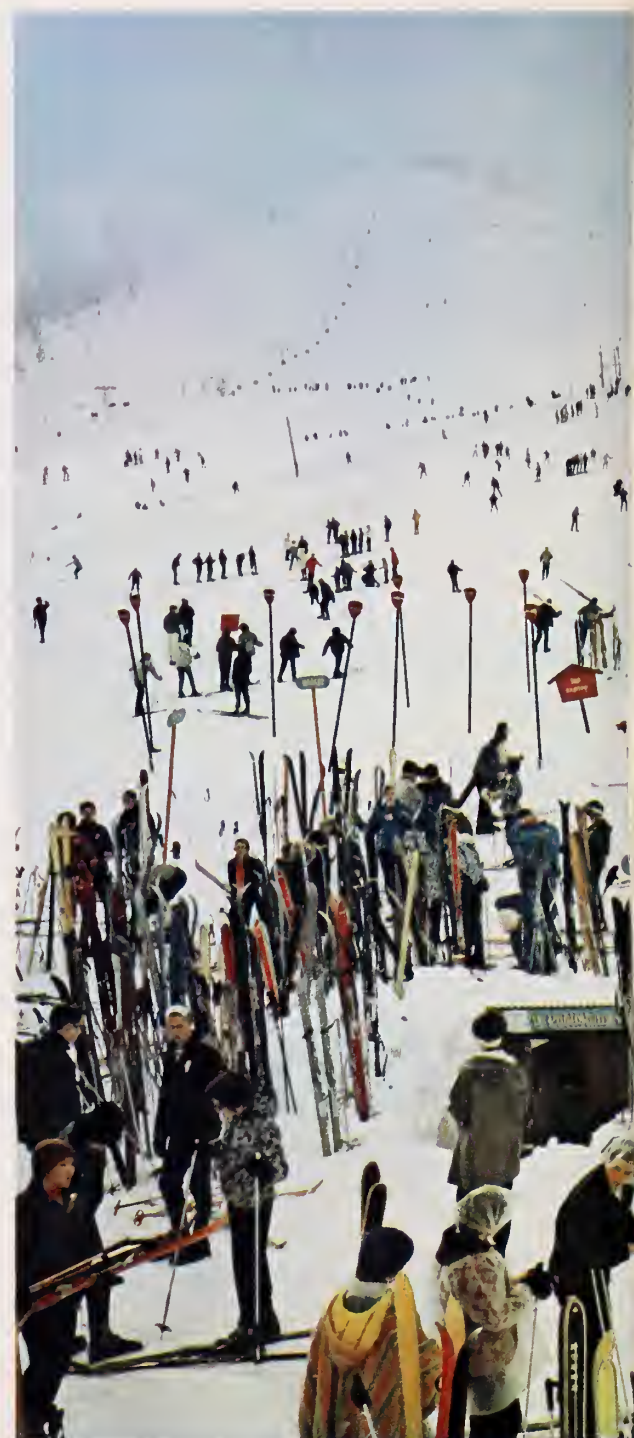


Most Difficult

Clip this page and carry it with you until you can recognize these signs instantly.

The Skier's Courtesy Code

1. Ski under control.
2. When skiing downhill and overtaking another skier, avoid the skier below.
3. When meeting another skier in traversing the slope, pass to the right.
4. Do not stop where you will obstruct a trail or the loading or unloading area of lift, and do not stop where you cannot be seen from above.
5. When entering a trail or slope from a side or intersecting trail, check for approaching downhill skiers.
6. When standing, check for approaching downhill skiers before resuming run.
7. When walking or climbing in a ski area, wear skis and keep to the side of the trail or slope.
8. Wear safety straps or other devices to prevent runaway skis.
9. Keep off closed trails and posted areas; observe traffic signs and other regulations of the area.



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Directory of Ski Areas on National Forests

The ski areas located in National Forests across the country are listed below by States. Requests for information about specific areas should be addressed to the Supervisor of the appropriate National Forest at the headquarters location given.

SKI AREA	NATIONAL FOREST	FOREST HEADQUARTERS	LIFTS					LOGGING
			Rope	Platter, Poma, J- or T-bar	Chair	Tram, Gondola		
ALASKA								
Alyeska.....	Chugach.....	Anchorage.....	3	1	1	0	Yes	
Douglas.....	North Tongass.....	Juneau.....	2	0	0	0	Yes	
Petersburg.....	North Tongass.....	Juneau.....	1	0	0	0	No	
ARIZONA								
Arizona Snow Bowl.....	Coconino.....	Flagstaff.....	0	2	1	0	No	
Mount Lemmon Sports Area.....	Coronado.....	Tucson.....	1	1	0	0	No	
Williams.....	Kaibab.....	Williams.....	1	1	0	0	No	
CALIFORNIA								
Alpine Meadows.....	Tahoe.....	Nevada City.....	0	3	4	0	Yes	
Blue Ridge.....	Angeles.....	Pasadena.....	2	0	2	0	Yes	
Cedar Pass.....	Modoc.....	Alturas.....	1	0	0	0	No	
China Peak.....	Sierra.....	Fresno.....	3	0	1	0	Yes	
Coppervale.....	Lassen.....	Susanville.....	1	0	0	0	No	
Dodge Ridge.....	Stanislaus.....	Sonora.....	8	2	4	0	Yes	
Echo Summit.....	Eldorado.....	Placerville.....	3	1	0	0	No	
Granlibakken.....	Tahoe.....	Nevada City.....	3	1	0	0	Yes	
Green Valley Snow Bowl.....	San Bernardino.....	San Bernardino.....	3	1	0	0	Yes	
Heavenly Valley.....	Eldorado.....	Placerville.....	4	2	5	1	Yes	
Holiday Hill*.....	Eldorado.....	Placerville.....	4	0	3	0	Yes	
June Mountain.....	Inyo.....	Bishop.....	1	2	2	0	Yes	
Kratka Ridge.....	Angeles.....	Pasadena.....	4	0	1	0	No	
Mammoth Mountain.....	Inyo.....	Bishop.....	2	2	6	1	No	
Moonridge*.....	San Bernardino.....	San Bernardino.....	3	2	0	0	Yes	
Mount Abel.....	Los Padres.....	Santa Barbara.....	1	0	0	0	No	
Mount Baldy.....	Angeles.....	Pasadena.....	7	1	3	0	Yes	
Mount Shasta Ski Bowl.....	Shasta-Trinity.....	Redding.....	3	1	1	0	Yes	
Mount Waterman.....	Angeles.....	Pasadena.....	4	0	1	0	Yes	
Onion Valley.....	Inyo.....	Bishop.....	2	0	0	0	No	
Peddler Hill.....	Eldorado.....	Placerville.....	3	1	0	0	No	
Plumas-Eureka Ski Bowl.....	Plumas.....	Quincy.....	3	0	0	0	Yes	
Powder Bowl.....	Tahoe.....	Nevada City.....	2	1	0	0	Yes	
Shirley Meadows.....	Sequoia.....	Porterville.....	3	0	0	0	No	
Sierra Ski Ranch.....	Eldorado.....	Placerville.....	3	2	0	0	Yes	

*Custom (artificial) snow.

SKI AREA	NATIONAL FOREST	FOREST HEADQUARTERS	LIFTS				LODGING
			Rope	Platter, Poma, J- or T-bar	Chair	Tram, Gondola	
Snow Forest*	San Bernardino	San Bernardino	5	0	1	0	Yes
Snow Summit*	San Bernardino	San Bernardino	7	0	2	0	Yes
Snow Valley*	San Bernardino	San Bernardino	10	1	3	0	Yes
Squaw Valley	Tahoe	Nevada City	0	6	13	2	Yes
Stover	Lassen	Susanville	1	0	0	0	Yes
Sugar Loaf	Sequoia	Porterville	2	0	0	0	No
Table Mountain	Angeles	Pasadena	5	3	0	0	Yes
Yuba Ski Land	Tahoe	Nevada City	2	0	0	0	No
Mt. Pinos	Los Padres	Santa Barbara	2	0	1	0	No
Sugar Bowl	Tahoe	Nevada City	2	1	3	0	Yes
Forest Ridge	Tahoe	Nevada City	2	3	1	0	No
COLORADO							
Arapaho Basin	Arapaho	Golden	0	4	3	0	Yes
Aspen Mountain	White River	Glenwood Springs	0	1	7	0	Yes
Aspen Highlands	White River	Glenwood Springs	0	3	3	0	Yes
Berthoud Pass	Arapaho	Golden	0	1	1	0	Yes
Breckenridge	Arapaho	Golden	0	2	2	0	Yes
Buttermilk Mountain	White River	Glenwood Springs	0	2	2	0	Yes
Cooper Hill	San Isabel	Pueblo	0	2	0	0	No
Crested Butte	Gunnison	Gunnison	1	2	0	1	Yes
Geneva Basin	Pike	Colorado Springs	2	1	1	0	No
Lake Eldora	Roosevelt	Fort Collins	0	2	0	0	No
Loveland Basin	Arapaho	Golden	0	1	2	0	No
Loveland Valley	Arapaho	Golden	1	0	1	0	No
Mesa Creek	Grand Mesa- Uncompahgre	Delta	1	2	0	0	No
Monarch	San Isabel	Pueblo	1	1	1	0	No
Mount Werner	Routt	Steamboat Springs	0	1	1	0	Yes
Pikes Peak	Pike	Colorado Springs	2	2	0	0	No
Snowmass Touring Area	White River	Glenwood Springs	No lifts but has "snowcat" services.				Yes
Stoner Ski Area	San Juan	Durango	1	1	0	0	No
Vail	White River	Glenwood Springs	0	1	5	2	Yes
Winter Park	Arapaho	Golden	0	4	3	0	Yes
Wolf Creek	Rio Grande	Monte Vista	1	1	0	0	No
IDAHO							
Bear Gulch	Targhee	St. Anthony	1	1	1	0	No
Bogus Basin	Boise	Boise	3	3	3	0	No
Brundage Mountain	Payette	McCall	0	1	1	0	No
Lookout Pass	Coeur d'Alene	Coeur d'Alene	4	1	0	0	Yes
Magic Mountain	Sawtooth	Twin Falls	2	2	0	0	No

*Custom (artificial) snow.

LIFTS

SKI AREA	NATIONAL FOREST	FOREST HEADQUARTERS	LIFTS				LOOGING
			Rope	Platter, Poma, J- or T-bar	Chair	Tram, Gondola	
North-South.....	St. Joe.....	St. Maries.....	2	2	0	0	Yes
Payette Lakes.....	Payette.....	McCall.....	1	1	0	0	No
Pine Basin.....	Targhee.....	St. Anthony.....	2	2	0	0	No
Pomerelle.....	Sawtooth.....	Twin Falls.....	2	1	1	0	No
Schweitzer Basin....	Kaniksu.....	Sandpoint.....	2	1	1	0	Yes
Skyline.....	Caribou.....	Pocatello.....	3	1	1	0	No
Soldier Mountain..	Sawtooth.....	Twin Falls.....	2	1	0	0	No
Sun Valley.....	Sawtooth.....	Twin Falls.....	0	1	9	0	Yes
MICHIGAN							
Caberfae.....	Manistee.....	Cadillac.....	14	6	0	0	No
Indian Head.....	Ottawa.....	Ironwood.....	0	0	0	0	No
Iroquois Mountain..	Hiawatha.....	Escanaba.....	2	0	1	0	Yes
The Big M.....	Manistee.....	Cadillac.....	10	1	1	0	No
Thunder Bowl.....	Hiawatha.....	Escanaba.....	2	0	0	0	No
MINNESOTA							
Giant's Ridge.....	Superior.....	Duluth.....	1	1	0	0	No
Lookout Moun- tain.....	Superior.....	Duluth.....	6	0	1	0	No
Shingobee.....	Chippewa.....	Cass Lake.....	1	0	0	0	No
MONTANA							
Big Mountain.....	Flathead.....	Kalispell.....	1	2	1	0	Yes
Bridger Bowl.....	Gallatin.....	Bozeman.....	1	2	1	0	Yes
Corona Lake.....	Lolo.....	Missoula.....	2	0	0	0	No
Grass Mountain....	Helena.....	Helena.....	1	0	0	0	No
Kings Hill.....	Lewis & Clark....	Great Falls.....	2	3	0	0	No
Lionhead.....	Gallatin.....	Bozeman.....	0	0	1	0	No
Lost Trail.....	Bitterroot.....	Hamilton.....	1	1	0	0	No
Missoula Snow Bowl.....	Lolo.....	Missoula.....	5	1	1	0	Yes
Red Lodge.....	Custer.....	Billings.....	0	1	2	0	Yes
Rainy Mountain....	Beaverhead.....	Dillon.....	1	0	1	0	No
Turner Mountain..	Kootenai.....	Libby.....	1	1	0	0	Yes
Wraith Hill.....	Deerlodge.....	Butte.....	1	0	0	0	Yes
NEVADA							
Lee Canyon.....	Toiyabe.....	Reno.....	1	1	0	0	No
Reno Ski Bowl.....	Toiyabe.....	Reno.....	0	0	3	0	No
Ward Mountain....	Humboldt.....	Elko.....	1	0	0	0	No
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Mt. Attitash.....	White Mountain..	Laconia.....	0	1	1	0	No
Cannon Mountain..	White Mountain..	Laconia.....	0	5	2	1	No
Loon Mountain.....	White Mountain..	Laconia.....	0	0	2	1	No
Mittersil.....	White Mountain..	Laconia.....	0	2	1	0	Yes

SKI AREA	NATIONAL FOREST	FOREST HEADQUARTERS	LIFTS				LODGING
			Rope	Platter, Poma, J- or T-bar	Chair	Tram, Gondola	
Tuckerman Ravine...	White Mountain...	Laconia.....	0	0	0	0	Yes
Waterville Valley...	White Mountain...	Laconia.....	0	2	4	0	Yes
Wildcat Mountain...	White Mountain...	Laconia.....	0	2	1	1	No
NEW MEXICO							
Red River.....	Carson.....	Taos.....	0	3	1	0	Yes
Sandia.....	Cibola.....	Albuquerque.....	0	2	1	0	No
Santa Fe Ski Basin...	Santa Fe.....	Santa Fe.....	0	2	2	0	No
Sierra Blanca.....	Lincoln.....	Alamogordo.....	0	3	1	1	Yes
Sipapu.....	Carson.....	Taos.....	0	2	0	0	Yes
Taos Ski Valley.....	Carson.....	Taos.....	0	4	2	0	Yes
OREGON							
Anthony Lakes.....	Wallowa- Whitman.	Baker.....	0	2	0	0	No
Arbuckle Moun- tain.	Umatilla.....	Pendleton.....	1	0	0	0	No
Bachelor Butte.....	Deschutes.....	Bend.....	1	2	2	0	Yes
Cooper Spur.....	Mount Hood.....	Portland.....	2	0	0	0	No
Hoodoo Ski Bowl...	Willamette.....	Eugene.....	3	0	2	0	Yes
Little Alps.....	Wallowa- Whitman.	Baker.....	3	0	0	0	No
Mount Ashland.....	Rogue River.....	Medford.....	0	3	1	0	No
Multapor-Skibowl...	Mount Hood.....	Portland.....	5	1	4	0	No
Spout Springs.....	Umatilla.....	Pendleton.....	3	2	1	0	Yes
Star Ski Bowl "play area."	Malheur.....	John Day.....	0	0	0	0	No
Summit.....	Mount Hood.....	Portland.....	3	1	0	0	No
Taft Mountain.....	Umpqua.....	Roseburg.....	1	0	0	0	No
Timberline.....	Mount Hood.....	Portland.....	2	2	3	2	Yes
						"snowcat"	
Tomahawk.....	Winema.....	Klamath Falls.....	2	1	0	0	No
Union Creek.....	Rogue River.....	Medford.....	1	0	0	0	No
Warner Canyon.....	Fremont.....	Lakeview.....	3	0	0	0	No
Willamette Pass.....	Willamette.....	Eugene.....	4	1	0	0	No
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Stewart Slope.....	Black Hills.....	Custer.....	0	2	0	0	No
UTAH							
Alta.....	Wasatch.....	Salt Lake City.....	5	0	4	0	Yes
Beaver Mountain...	Cache.....	Logan.....	1	0	2	0	No
Blue Mountain.....	Manti-LaSal.....	Price.....	0	1	0	0	No
Brian Head.....	Dixie.....	Cedar City.....	0	1	1	0	No
Brighton.....	Wasatch.....	Salt Lake City.....	0	1	3	0	Yes
Cedar Canyon.....	Dixie.....	Cedar City.....	1	0	0	0	No

SKI AREA	NATIONAL FOREST	FOREST HEADQUARTERS	LIFTS				LODGING
			Rope	Platter, Poma, J- or T-bar	Chair	Tram, Gondola	
Gooseberry.....	Fishlake.....	Richfield.....	1	0	0	0	No
Grizzly Ridge.....	Ashley.....	Vernal.....	2	1	0	0	No
Little Mountain.....	Wasatch.....	Salt Lake City.....	2	0	0	0	No
Snow Basin.....	Cache.....	Logan.....	1	0	4	0	No
Solitude.....	Wasatch.....	Salt Lake City.....	0	0	3	0	Yes
VERMONT							
Big Bromley.....	Green Mountain...	Rutland.....	0	6	3	0	No
Carinthia.....	Green Mountain...	Rutland.....	0	1	0	0	No
Glen Ellen.....	Green Mountain...	Rutland.....	0	1	3	0	No
Haystack Mountain.	Green Mountain...	Rutland.....	0	3	1	0	Yes
Mount Snow.....	Green Mountain...	Rutland.....	0	0	4	7	Yes
Sugarbush Valley...	Green Mountain...	Rutland.....	0	1	4	1	Yes
WASHINGTON							
Chewelah Peak.....	Colville.....	Colville.....	2	0	1	0	No
Crystal Mountain...	Snoqualmie.....	Seattle.....	4	1	4	0	Yes
Hyak.....	Wenatchee.....	Wenatchee.....	7	2	1	0	No
Leavenworth.....	Wenatchee.....	Wenatchee.....	2	0	0	0	No
Loup Loup.....	Okanogan.....	Okanogan.....	3	0	0	0	No
Mission Ridge.....	Wenatchee.....	Wenatchee.....	12	0	2	0	No
Mount Baker.....	Mount Baker.....	Bellingham.....	5	0	2	0	Yes
Pilchuk.....	Mount Baker.....	Bellingham.....	3	0	1	0	No
Ski Acres.....	Wenatchee.....	Wenatchee.....	12	1	3	0	No
Snoqualmie Summit.	Snoqualmie.....	Seattle.....	8	5	3	0	Yes
Stevens Pass.....	Wenatchee.....	Wenatchee.....	14	0	4	0	Yes
White Pass.....	Snoqualmie.....	Seattle.....	1	1	3	0	Yes
WISCONSIN							
Perkinstown.....	Chequamegon.....	Park Falls.....	2	0	0	0	No
Sheltered Valley...	Nicolet.....	Rhinelanders.....	3	1	0	0	No
WYOMING							
Antelope Butte.....	Bighorn.....	Sheridan.....	2	2	0	0	No
Fortification Mtn...	Bridger.....	Kemmerer.....	1	1	0	0	No
Happy Jack.....	Medicine Bow.....	Laramie.....	2	1	0	0	No
Jackson Hole.....	Teton.....	Jackson.....	0	0	3	1	Yes
Meadowlark Lake...	Bighorn.....	Sheridan.....	1	2	0	0	No
Medicine Bow.....	Medicine Bow.....	Laramie.....	0	2	0	0	No
Ryan Park.....	Medicine Bow.....	Laramie.....	0	1	1	0	No
Sinks Canyon.....	Shoshone.....	Cody.....	2	0	0	0	No
Sleeping Giant.....	Shoshone.....	Cody.....	2	0	0	0	No
Snow King.....	Teton.....	Jackson.....	1	0	2	0	No
Teton Pass.....	Teton.....	Jackson.....	1	0	0	0	No

Ski Trails for the Future

FS-515523



Back when the Forest Service started clearing slopes there were probably 50,000 skiers in the country. Today there are an estimated 1½ million, and over half of them visit the National Forests each winter. Their numbers are increasing and, in some parts of the country, more ski resorts are needed. Where there is overcrowding on ski slopes and trails, there is always danger of collision. Long lines at the lifts usually mean impatient skiers ready to take chances to get more rides.

Skiing is growing in popularity so rapidly and steadily that the Forest Service must keep close check on the use and capacities of existing areas and the feasibility of expanding them. At the same time, the Service is constantly on the lookout for sites where new skiing facilities could be developed. Once a potential site has been located Forest Service recreation experts study the terrain, the snow records for several years past, and existing and probable transportation routes, and estimate the use the area might get if developed for skiing.

When it is determined that additional ski facilities are needed in a locality, and a site has been found, the Forest Service usually issues a prospectus outlining the minimum requirements for development and asks for proposals. Concessioners are awarded permits only after they have proved their ability to install the necessary facilities and to manage the business as a service to skiers.

Machine-made snow is bringing skiing to parts of the country where the real stuff seldom falls. But machines require below-freezing weather, water, and compressed air—all adding up to an expensive operation.

The Forest Service is helping industries in the search for snow substitutes. On the



FS-514267 R



K 5971



FS-515527

short sawdust ski slope set up on University of Georgia land, experimenters found wet sawdust mighty slow, but a light layer of dry sawdust remedied that, and with a sawmill nearby they didn't have to wait for a change in weather. Sawdust will probably never be used for long ski runs, but it is good on practice slopes and for summer conditioning.

Also in keeping up with demand, the Forest Service is encouraging development of cross-country ski trails. Many skiers, finding slopes and lifts too crowded, have reverted to the oldtime joys of skiing up hill and down, following trails through snow-laden trees, and making their way over unbroken snows along scenic ridges.

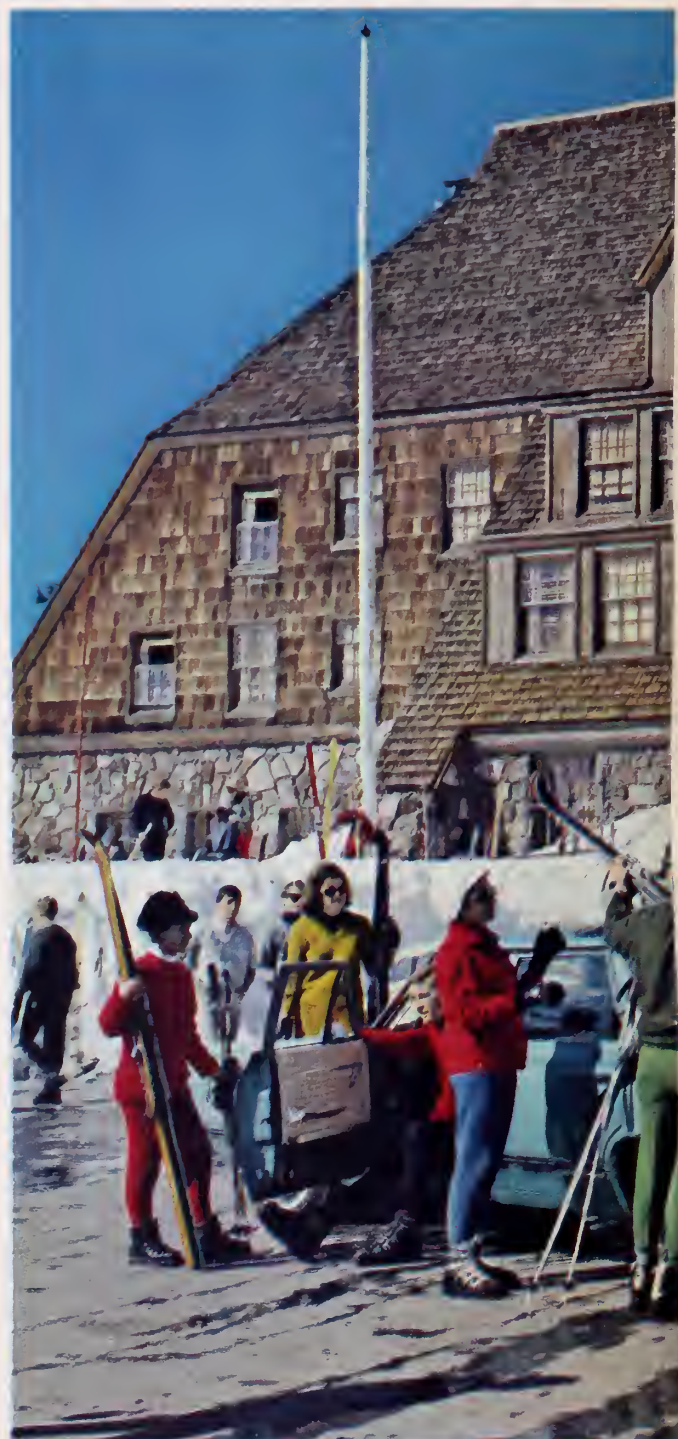


America's Winter Playgrounds

Although skiing is the most popular of the many winter sports found in the National Forests, there is fun for all. On separate hills little folk try out new sleds and spin over the crust on flying saucers. On frozen lakes youthful people of all ages cut figure eights and zip over the ice with arms flying and skates flashing in the sun. Undaunted by the cold, fishermen cut holes in the ice, put up little huts or windbreaks for protection, and hopefully watch their lines. Summer sailors find greater challenge and speed in iceboating. Other visitors to these winter playgrounds enjoy tobogganing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, dogsled racing, and sleigh riding.

More and more American families, skilled or not in winter sports, are finding fun and relaxation in the outdoors when deep snows and glistening ice crystals turn the forests into green and white wonderlands. A day or an afternoon in the cold fresh air, tramping through the snow and perhaps even engaging in a rousing snowball fight, are healthful and stimulating. And the cares of the workaday world quickly fade before the freshness of an unbroken stretch of snow, the beauty of snow-laden trees etched against a steel-blue sky.

Then when the snows turn dark with evening's long shadows, it's time to relax in the lodge before a great open fire. It's time to ski again the trails conquered in the day, to laugh at the spills and the snowballs that missed, and to marvel again at the beauty of the white-blanketed world. It's time, too, to plan for the next day, the next week, and even the next year, for the call of the snow is in the blood of those who have raced against the wind, or tramped through the silent woods.



COURTESY OF OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

America's Winter Playgrounds

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COURTESY OF OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.



FS-515528



FS-515523



Ski Slopes Have Other Uses

The National Forests are lands of many uses. They are lands of trees from which come wood for skis and pulp for paper, rayon, and plastics. They are lands of high-country ranges on which sheep and cattle graze, supplying meat for the table and wool for sweaters.

They are lands which produce water to turn the turbines for power, fill the irrigation ditches for farmers, and supply the household. They are lands of lakes and streams where fish are plentiful, and on these lands much of the big game of the country finds food and shelter during part of the year.

These lands in the National Forest System, covering 186 million acres in 41 States and Puerto Rico, are for all Americans to use and enjoy whether they picnic, hike into the wilderness, camp, swim, watch the scudding clouds, or ski.

Such are the Nation's 154 National Forests—lands administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service under a policy of multiple use management to produce high-level, sustained yields of water, wood, wildlife, forage, and recreation.

Recreational skiing fits naturally into this multiple use picture. The snow which makes it possible is the same snow that melts and sinks into the ground, helping to provide year round water for industrial, farm, and home use. Roads built to harvest timber may provide access to what could be first-rate ski areas. Wild and some domestic animals find grasses and other vegetation on ski slopes and trails after the winter snows have gone. And the ski lifts climbing toward mountaintops and splendid panoramic views, as well as the comfortable lodges and high mountain trails, offer outdoor recreation as attractive to the summer visitor as to the winter vacationist . . .

. . . almost as attractive as to the skier who impatiently waits from one season to the next for that breathless moment when he stands again on top of the world and points his skis down.

Information

For detailed information on other National Forest recreation activities, see the map below for the name of the Forest Service region you are interested in, and address your query to Regional Forester, Forest Service:

Alaska Region	Post Office Box 1628 Juneau, Alaska 99801	Intermountain Region	324 25th Street Ogden, Utah 84401
Pacific Northwest Region	Post Office Box 3623 Portland, Oreg. 97208	Rocky Mountain Region	Federal Center, Bldg. 85 Denver, Colo. 80225
California Region	630 Sansome Street San Francisco, Calif. 94111	Southwestern Region	517 Gold Avenue SW. Albuquerque, N. Mex. 87101
Northern Region	Federal Building Missoula, Mont. 59801	Eastern Region	633 West Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, Wis. 53203
		Southern Region	50 Seventh Street NE. Atlanta, Ga. 30323



National Forest System



Ski the National Forests



This booklet is one of a series on the many uses and benefits of the water, timber, wildlife, forage, and recreation resources of the National Forest System. Others are *Wilderness, Camping, Timber, Backpacking in the National Forest Wilderness, Trees of the Forest, The National Grasslands Story, and National-Forest Vacations.*

Revised December 1966

Know These Signs— Enjoy Your National Forest Skiing



NO Schussbooming



Trails Merge



Trail Closed



Congested Area



Warming Hut



Emergency Telephone



Chair Lift



CLOSED Avalanche Area



Extra Caution



Easier



More Difficult



Most Difficult